

I extend my deepest congratulations to Edite Maloku for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

**PRIVATE SECTOR GROWTH
SUFFOCATED BY HIGH TAXES**

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I highlight an example of how private sector businesses grow and contribute to our society when they're not suffocated by unnecessarily high taxes, and to dispel a myth that our colleagues continue to perpetuate about energy taxes. On April 24, The Wall Street Journal ran an article calling Apple Inc. "the most valuable company" in the world.

Am I happy about that? Am I happy about Apple's success? You bet I am, and so are most people in the United States.

Later that week, on April 28, The New York Times wrote a similar article that reported on Apple's creative, but legal, tax strategy that saves them billions in tax payments each year. The Times article reported "the company paid cash taxes of \$3.3 billion around the world on its reported profits of \$34.2 billion last year, a tax rate of 9.8 percent." Comparatively, Wal-Mart paid a tax rate of 24 percent.

When Apple was asked for comments on their exceptionally low tax rate, they responded: "By focusing on innovation, we've created entirely new products and industries, and more than 500,000 jobs for U.S. workers—from the people who create components for our products to the people who deliver them to our customers."

They also mentioned: "In the first half of fiscal year 2012, our U.S. operations have generated almost \$5 billion."

Mr. Speaker, Apple's experiences are instructive to us.

First, the Federal Tax Code is too complicated. It allows only the largest companies who can afford to hire tax code interpreters to benefit from lower taxes. We should simplify the tax code by closing the loopholes and lower rates across the board to boost American competitiveness for all companies, large and small.

Both history and Apple's experience underscore how increasing taxes without accompanying comprehensive reform has never and will never represent a sustainable, long-term strategy to any budgetary problems. On the contrary, cutting taxes does create economic growth, which fuels Federal revenue windfalls for reducing the deficit.

These lessons should be applied to the entire tax code. Instead of increasing taxes on American energy producers, we should focus on simplifying the federal code to encourage the development of domestic energy resources which, in turn, bolsters employment opportunities here at home.

Again, am I pleased about Apple's success? Absolutely.

But we never hear from our Democrat friends about the low tax rates paid by companies like Apple. However, they attack domestic

energy producers and ignore the simple truth that it is the American people who actually own these companies and benefit from the respective profits that they make. According to the American Petroleum Institute, mutual funds hold almost 30 percent of oil stocks; pension funds hold 27 percent; individual investors hold 23 percent; 14 percent is held in individual retirement accounts; other institutional investments hold 5 percent; and corporate management holds just 1.5 percent.

Despite what liberal Democrats would have you believe, increasing domestic energy production not only helps lower prices and produce jobs; it also helps boost stocks, mutual funds, IRAs, and pension funds owned by millions of Americans.

It is also worth recognizing how hypocritical it is for liberal Democrats to complain about the federal tax treatment of domestic energy production while ignoring the market distorting impact of their favored subsidization of failed wind, solar and "green car" projects. The simple truth is that American energy producers, such as those in the oil development business, receive the same tax treatment as other U.S. industries. For those truly interested in "fairness," the difference between "subsidies" and "deductions" should not be ignored or distorted.

It's time that we as government officials get out of the way. Instead of increasing the bureaucracy and red tape, we need to focus on creating an environment for American private sector businesses to compete more easily in the global marketplace and give back to local communities in the form of jobs rather than sending more money to the Federal Government.

**HONORING THE LATE MRS.
CRYSTIANA SMITH RANDLE FOR
HER COMMITMENT TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, the late, Crystiana Smith Randle. Mrs. Randle was born August 26, 1924 in Gulfport, Mississippi to John and Annie Bell Smith.

She was a graduate of Thirty-Third High School in Gulfport, Mississippi. Later she attended Tougaloo College, in Tougaloo, Mississippi, receiving a Bachelors of Arts in English and Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia, with a Masters in Library Science.

After completing her college education, she worked at Mileston High School and Harmony High School before her tenure at McNair High School and Humphreys County High School as the school's librarian.

She worked delightfully and diligently for thirty-four years teaching and illuminating the lives of thousands of boys and girls until her retirement in 1986.

She was active in many professional organizations and served as a member of the Humphreys County Library Board. She dedicated her years as her family's personal Genealogist.

She was married to Thomas C. Randle and was the mother of two daughters, Santa and

Regina. Mrs. Randle passed away on April 20, 2005.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Crystiana Smith Randle for her dedication to serving others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday on rollcall 214, I inadvertently voted "no." I should be recorded as voting "aye."

ELIZABETH BLUE-NORTON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elizabeth Blue-Norton for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Elizabeth Blue-Norton is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elizabeth Blue-Norton is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Elizabeth Blue-Norton for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

**HONORING COLONEL MARY G.
LOCKHART ON THE OCCASION OF
HER RETIREMENT FROM THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colonel Mary G. Lockhart on the occasion of her retirement from the United States Air Force. I have a great appreciation for Colonel Lockhart's professional and distinguished career, and her dedicated service to our great Nation. Although it is difficult to encapsulate her Air Force career of 30 years in just a few brief remarks, I would like to highlight her contributions to the Air Force and our country by offering the following tribute.

In some aspects, Colonel Lockhart's career may appear to be similar to those of the many thousands of senior officers who have served in the Air Force since its creation in 1947. However, upon closer examination, it becomes clear that Colonel Lockhart has performed highly sensitive roles in critical Air Force missions with a level of skill that few other officers